

Application of Alan L. COX et al., Ser. No. 09/677,979, Filed October 3, 2000  
Reply to Final Office Action

REMARKS

STATUS OF CLAIMS

Claims 40-46, 48-63, 65-76, 78-89, and 91-95 have been cancelled herein.

Claims 1-39 were previously cancelled in the response to the first Office Action.

Claims 47, 64, 77, and 90 have been amended.

No claims have been added or withdrawn.

Claims 47, 64, 77, and 90 are currently pending in the application.

SUMMARY TO THE REJECTIONS AND OBJECTIONS

Claims 40-46, 48-63, 65-76, 78-89, and 91-95 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly unpatentable over U.S. Patent Number 6,163,779 issued to Mantha et al. ("Mantha") in view of the article titled "Embedded Inodes and Explicit Grouping: Exploiting Disk Bandwidth for Small Files" by Ganger et al. ("Ganger"). Claims 47, 64, 77, and 90 have been objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. The rejections are respectfully traversed, and Claims 47, 64, 77, and 90 are rewritten to obviate the objections.

RESPONSE TO THE REJECTIONS AND OBJECTIONS

Claims 40-46, 48-63, 65-76, 78-89, and 91-95 have cancelled. Therefore, the Applicant respectfully submits that the rejection of Claims 40-46, 48-63, 65-76, 78-89, and 91-95 over *Mantha* in view of *Ganger* is moot.

Claims 47, 64, 77, and 90 have been rewritten in independent form to include all of the limitations of the corresponding base claims and any intervening claims. Note that in Claim 90, the steps from Claim 88 were modified so that the verbs were in the active tense (e.g., using "-ing" words to being each step) to be consistent with the remainder of Claim 90. Therefore, the Applicant respectfully submits that Claims 47, 64, 77, and 90 are allowable over the art of record and are in condition for allowance.

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The Applicant believes that all issues raised in the Final Office Action have been addressed and that allowance of the pending claims is appropriate. Entry of the amendments and issuance of a Notice of Allowance are respectfully requested.

The Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned by telephone if it is believed that such contact would further the examination of the present application.

For the reasons set forth above, it is respectfully submitted that all of the pending claims are now in condition for allowance. Therefore, the issuance of a formal Notice of Allowance is believed next in order, and that action is most earnestly solicited.

To the extent necessary to make this reply timely filed, the Applicant petitions for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136.

If any applicable fee is missing or insufficient, throughout the pendency of this application, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to any applicable fees and to credit any overpayments to our Deposit Account No. 50-1302.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: August 22, 2005

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**CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the United States Patent and Trademark Office Fax No. (571) 273-8300.

on 8/22/05 by Trudy Bagdon